

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT:

[0017] The above-described bottom electric heating element system 20 of the present invention overcomes the disadvantages of prior art bottom electric heating elements in that the conventional porcelain enamel coated steel cover over the heating element is eliminated to thereby allow more efficient heat transfer from the heating elements to the oven cavity as well as providing infrared heating. The glass panel 44 is not susceptible to deterioration and cracking as is the porcelain enamel coating on a steel panel and may be easily cleaned. The resilient supporting arrangement for the glass panel 44 as provided by the resilient gasket 42 and the resilient mounting frame 46 enhances the impact resistance of the glass panel 44 and avoids any problems of differential rates of thermal expansion of the components. While the frame 46 with its outer edge 46a engaging the upper surface 22a of the bottom pan 22 and its inner edge 46b engaging the glass panel ~~[[40]]~~ 44 resists the intrusion of any liquid spills into the recessed portion 26 of the bottom pan 22, any such spillage that bypasses the frame 46 will be absorbed by the gasket 42 or insulation wall 40 and any excessive leakage will merely drain to the bottom of the recessed portion 26. In the unlikely event that there is a malfunction in the electric heating element assembly 30 or the glass panel 44 breaks, maintenance may be readily performed by merely removing the frame 46 from the bottom pan 22 by removing the mounting screws (not shown) and then lifting the various components out of the recessed portion 26 of the bottom pan 22. In the

heretofore conventional bottom electric heating element systems any such malfunctioned usually required replacement of the entire oven cavity walls.